

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) A system for automatically updating a home page [[automatic]], comprising:
 - a home page database storing HTML document data for the home page;
 - a schedule database storing schedule data relating to the HTML document data;
 - a mail server receiving a mail message from an entrant, the mail message including a request of updating the HTML document data and first update data;
 - a home page management unit reading out the HTML document data from the home page database in response to a request from a user terminal, and transmitting the readout HTML document data to the user terminal, the home page management unit receiving second update data from an update terminal, and transferring the second update data to the home page database;
 - a patrol search unit patrolling the mail server, the update terminal, the home page database, and the schedule database to search and extract data relating the update of the HTML document data in accordance with a patrol order of the mail server, the update terminal, the home page database, and the schedule database, a patrol timing, and a number of times that patrol is to be carried out, which are determined based on the order of priority for accessing the mail server, the home page database, the update terminal, and the schedule database; and
 - an update data generation unit generating update HTML document data on the basis of the extracted data, the generating unit updating the HTML document data with reference to the schedule data at the patrol timing, and at least one of the first and second update data is incorporated in the update HTML document data if the one of the first and second update data is searched and extracted as the extract data;
- wherein the update terminal is allowed to set the patrol timing, patrol order, number of times patrol is to be carried out, and setting regarding whether or not to cause the patrol to be carried out.

2. (Previously presented) A system according to claim 1, wherein the update HTML document data contains banner advertisement data.

3. (Original) A system according to claim 1, wherein the reception process of a mail message includes a process for sending a mail transmission request to the mail server, and a reception process of a mail message from the mail server.

4. (Previously presented) A system according to claim 1, wherein the extraction process of update data of the HTML document data stored in the home page database includes a process for reading out a latest first HTML document data and a second HTML document data having an update time a predetermined period of time before the current time from the home page database, and a process for extracting a mismatched data part of the first and second HTML document data.

5. (Currently amended) A system according to claim 1, wherein the file search process in the management unit includes a process for sending a file search request to the update terminal, and a reception process of an update file from the update terminal.

6. (Previously presented) A system according to claim 1, wherein the schedule database set with a predetermined cyclic period, and update data associated with the schedule database, and the search process of schedule data in the schedule database includes a search process of update data associated with a schedule corresponding to the current time.

7. (Cancelled).